

# Riparian Characteristics and Shade Study

## Project Scoping Document

*(Best Available Science and Alternatives Analysis)*

Presented to the Timber, Fish, & Wildlife TFW Policy Committee

<b>1. Date</b>	June 26, 2018
<b>2. Project Team</b>	Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation Research (CMER) Riparian Science Advisory Group (RSAG)
<b>3. Process Step</b>	<p>This <b>Riparian Characteristics and Shade (RCS) study</b> is following the process of interaction established in the CMER Protocols and Standards Manual. The SAG/Project Team developed a draft recommendation for a study scope (attached document), solicited comments and obtained approval of a final version by the Board approved CMER members, and is now taking the recommended project to Policy for approval for any funds necessary to develop the study design and for potential placeholder funds to implement the study. The Project Team would then develop a study design which would go to RSAG and CMER for review and approval. The study design would then be sent to ISPR and revised based on their feedback. Once a study design is developed and approved, CMER would request prioritization and funding from the Policy Committee as part of the biennial budget prioritization process.</p> <p>The Scoping document contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issue/Problem Statement, Purpose Statement, Objectives, and Critical Questions.</li><li>• Summary of Best Available Science</li><li>• Alternative Study Designs</li><li>• Data Requirements</li><li>• Level of Effort and Estimated Budget.</li></ul> <p><i>Other relevant history or information to be added here (if any):</i> The RCS study was added to the CMER biennial workplan in 2016. The Timber Fish and Wildlife (TFW) Policy Committee (Policy) approved limited funding to assist RSAG in developing a study design for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.</p>
<b>4. Decision for TFW Policy Committee</b>	<p>TFW Policy Committee must approve a study design alternative(s) before the SAG/Project Team writes the detailed study design. This document comes before Policy twice: --First meeting: receive document and presentation; Policy questions to SAG/Project Team --Second meeting: Policy approval of a study design alternative</p> <p><b><u>The decision or question for Policy today is:</u></b> CMER is requesting Policy accept for formal review the Scoping document which contains the Best Available Science (BAS) and project Alternatives for the Riparian Characteristics and Shade study. Acceptance of the proposal at the July 2018 Policy meeting for review will set the stage for a decision on the proposal at the August 2018 meeting.</p> <p>Once finalized, the Policy decision is to be memorialized in the transmittal letter to the Adaptive Management Program Administrator (AMPA).</p>
<b>5. Content Overview</b>	<p>The Scoping proposal can be summarized by the following statement:</p> <p>This short-term (3 year) study uses a rigorous experimental design to quantify how stream shade responds to a continuum of buffer management treatments of varying intensity across a range of stand types (or geo-physiographic regions) common to commercial forestlands covered under the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (FPHCP). The results would strengthen the ability of the Adaptive Management Program (AMP) to interpret and respond</p>

	to ongoing and future effectiveness monitoring studies that directly test both shade and temperature. It is designed so it can be broken into regions or spread over more or less years to provide flexibility to better fit into the AMP budget.
<b>6. Budget for Each Alternative</b> <i>As applicable</i>	<p>Four alternatives are provided:</p> <p>Alternative 1 - \$258,875 – 433,125  Alternative 2 - \$344,500 - \$621,055  Alternative 3 - \$436,777  Alternative 4 - \$147,250 - \$241,500</p> <p><i>Ranges represent difference in cost between an eastside-only and statewide study.</i></p>
<b>7. Rule Group</b> <i>As applicable</i>	Extensive Riparian Status and Trends (Workplan Section 5.2.8.5)